

### GEN. PROSPERITY RULES OVER STATE

Conditions in Nebraska Were Never Better Than They Are at the Present Time.

### ALL TOO BUSY TO TALK WAR

Such Are the Conditions Found in the Southern Part of the State by Officials of the Missouri Pacific.

Assistant General Freight Agent Malcolm of the Missouri Pacific railroad is back from a three-day trip over the company lines in southeast Nebraska. He accompanied Superintendent Russ of the Nebraska division, traveling on the latter's gasoline speeder. During the trip 80 miles of road was covered and twenty-nine stations visited. At many times and over considerable stretches the speeder attained a speed of fifty miles per hour. Speaking of conditions in the territory visited, Mr. Malcolm said:

"In southeast Nebraska I have never seen conditions as good as now and never have I seen such general prosperity as is apparent everywhere. The farmers and business men are all optimists; there is no war talk and everywhere the people are busy. The farmers have raised the best all around crop in the history of the state and everything that they have to sell is bringing good prices. From observations made I am inclined to the opinion that about 50 per cent of the wheat is still in the hands of the farmers and I presume considerable of this will be held in anticipation of higher prices."

**Corn About All Picked.**  
The corn is about all picked. Little of it has been marketed when you compare the amount on hand with the amount grown. The corn is of an excellent quality and having been picked during dry weather is in about the same condition as old corn. A good many of the farmers are leaving their plans for feeding large numbers of steers during the winter and consequently they will feed more hogs than usual.

"In the towns visited I noted that trade is good and that the quality of merchandise purchased is fully up to, if not better than that of former years. At no place that I stopped did the merchants complain of hard times or dull business. My judgment is that this year, at least, southeast Nebraska is the most prospered locality in the United States and the garden spot of the entire country."

The Missouri Pacific is doing a good business and at every station on the lines in the territory visited, the business for November was largely in excess of the business of the corresponding month of last year. Some stations showed an increase of from 75 to 100 per cent in freight and passenger traffic. "Much work is being done along the lines in the way of reconstruction and betterments. Between West Side and Portal, for a distance of fifteen miles, new and heavier rails are being laid and on the Lincoln and several of the Nebraska branches the tracks are being ballasted with gravel, putting the roadbed in the best possible condition. At this time something like 250 extra men are being given employment."

### Baker Says He Will Sue Light Company Over His Own Name

So firm is his conviction that the Omaha Electric Light & Power company has no legal right to extend its power business that City Corporation Counsel Ben S. Baker will himself sue in the courts to stop the company from even carrying additional power burdens on its service wires. The city legal department has filed an opinion in which the decision of the court are interpreted to mean that the city can remove all poles and wires installed since May 25, 1906, from the streets. This was the date of the first attack on the company's power business rights. The courts have held that the company has a perpetual franchise to furnish light.

### Nielsen Saves Pups for Poor Children

Hans Nielsen, humane officer, was presented with a basket of six fine puppies to do away with them, when he was called to a house at 1417 South Twelfth street. Notwithstanding the fact that several of his friends urged him to drown the animals, Nielsen kept them and has decided to make a number of poor children happy with a present of a puppy for Christmas.

PERA enthusiasts and music lovers generally are looking forward to a rare musical feast the coming week. And justly so, for the reputation which precedes it indicates the San Carlo Grand Opera company to be an organization of exceptional merit. A company of artists that can sing a repertoire of twenty different master-works of music must of necessity be one of versatility and unusual good balance. The San Carlo forces, which number upward of 100 people, have recently scored extraordinary successes in Montreal, Toronto, Cleveland, Cincinnati and St. Louis, where the love of this form of art is of long standing. Kansas City opera lovers will hear the artists the first three days of the week and the big organization of Italian song birds will journey from there to Omaha by special train, reaching here Thursday morning. Reference to the company as Italian may be made for the reason that it is primarily Italian, though upon the roster of principals Germany, France, Russia and Spain are represented. Grand opera companies, while customarily assembled in New York by American promoters, are, in fact, recruited from all over the world, and the successful impresario must necessarily maintain a wide acquaintanceship with musical celebrities.

The impresario must watch the movements and the success of singers and musicians, and the instrumentalists are quite as important as the vocalists. They must know the operas backward, as the singers know operas in Italy before they know the alphabet. The promoter must know the salaries the artists receive in other companies; watch the foreign musical journals closely and keep in touch with the changes in other organizations; learn when these disband and where the singers go. Perhaps some singer has been dissatisfied with her success under another management. She may have been forced to "play second fiddle" to some other star, perhaps of less merit. She gladly accepts an opportunity for an engagement that may mean less money for her and require three appearances each week when she has been singing but once, but which may add much more to her fame as an artist.

Other singers of note may have been in concert work and are anxious to get back into operas. Nearly all singers prefer grand opera. Money is an important consideration, but the fame that comes to an opera singer is often a deciding factor.

Some of the opera stars are engaged in America, others in Europe, others come from the great opera centers of the southern republics—Buenos Ayres, Santiago, Rio Janeiro, Havana, City of Mexico. The San Carlo artists, most of them, have song with high distinction in the foreign opera capitals, and a number of them are this season paying their first visit to American shores. A number of the chorus members come direct from the celebrated chorus schools of Italy, know an extensive repertoire, and are therefore in a position to teach and help along their co-workers engaged by the management in this country. All are anxious to learn, because nearly all of the present-day celebrities came from the ranks. There are many fine voices in America whose possessors give creditable concert programs, but they cannot sing opera. Often the impresario finds these voices a most desirable personality that attracts. But when he inquires what the artist sings, he finds they know but one opera. Only a very great singer would be engaged to sing but one certain role.

The roster of principals of the San Carlo company, which comes to the Auditorium on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, contains the names of several whose fine reputations precede them. Omaha has not heard a great deal of grand opera, but the voices of many who come this week are remembered in such opera-going communities as San Francisco, New Orleans, Montreal, New York, Boston and St. Louis. Three different and distinct casts will be heard in the repertoire announced for local production, and the following artists will sing them. There are four leading sopranos, three mezzo sopranos, four distinguished tenors, three eminent baritones and two basses forming the three different casts of principals of the San Carlo Grand Opera company:  
Sopranos—Ester Adaberto (dramatic), Edvige Vaccari (coloratura), Marie Kaestner (dramatic), Anita Sedelmayer (lyric), Mezzo Sopranos—Carolina Zawner, Annette Chabot, Anna Hesse.  
Tenors—Salvatore Sciarrotti (lyric), Giuseppe Agostini (dramatic), Alfredo Grassini (dramatic), Luciano Rossini (lyric).  
Baritones—Alessandro Modesti, Angelo Antola, L. Dellomolle.  
Basses—Natale Cervi, Emilio Sezona.

## Omaha's Grand Opera Season Promises Much Pleasure

### Stars in Grand Opera Here This Week



MADAME CAROLINA ZAWNER As Azucena in "Il Trovatore."

SIGNOR ANGELO ANTOLE As Tonio in "Pagliacci."

General Musical Director—Chevalier Giuseppe Angelini.  
Musical Director and Chorus Master—Signor Vincenzo Stea.

The repertoire, apparently selected with no small insight into local musical tastes,

should gratify all artistic appetites, for every one of the artists mentioned will appear. It is quite safe to predict that there will be no eleventh-hour failures, for Impresario Gallo has achieved the reputation of keeping absolute faith with

his patrons, and the casts as given below will be heard. Opening with Donizetti's famous work, "Lucia Di Lammermoor," with its brilliant duets, thrilling arias, charming ensembles and beautiful choruses, opera

patrons will have the chance to hear the ever-famous sextette, given by artists who sing from the heart as well as for high salaries.

On Friday evening Gounod's Faust, which, through its worldwide popularity, has but recently been given its 1,631st production in Paris alone, will be the offering. Saturday afternoon the popular double bill, "Cavalleria Rusticana" and "Pagliacci," which will bring forward some ten of the principals, will be sung, and Verdi's tuneful "Il Trovatore," whose melodies are hummed, whistled and sung in nearly every household where there is some kind of a musical instrument, will be given a beautiful presentation.

The complete repertoire and casts of principals follow:  
Thursday evening, "Lucia di Lammermoor"  
Henry Ashton, of Lammermoor..... Angelo Antola  
Lucia, his sister..... Edvige Vaccari  
Sir Edgar, of Ravenswood..... Salvatore Sciarrotti  
Lord Arthur Bucklaw..... Luciano Rossini  
Raymond, a chaplain..... Natale Cervi  
Alfred, attendant on Lucia..... Anita Sedelmayer  
Norman, follower of Henry..... Emilio Sezona  
Friday evening, "Faust"  
Faust..... Giuseppe Agostini  
Mephistopheles..... Emilio Sezona  
Valentine..... Alessandro Modesti  
Branford, or Wagner..... L. Dellomolle  
Siegfried..... Carolina Zawner  
Marguerite..... Ester Adaberto  
Marta..... Annette Chabot  
Saturday matinee, "Cavalleria Rusticana" and "Pagliacci"  
First cast..... Marie Kaestner  
Lola..... Carolina Zawner  
Turiddu..... Alfredo Grassini  
Alfio..... Angelo Antola  
Mamma Lucia..... Annette Chabot  
Second cast..... Anita Sedelmayer  
Neiddu..... Salvatore Sciarrotti  
Peppe..... Luciano Rossini  
Silvio..... L. Dellomolle  
Leonora..... Ester Adaberto  
Alicena..... Carolina Zawner  
Marta..... Annette Chabot  
Count Di Luna..... Alessandro Modesti  
Ferrando..... Emilio Sezona  
Rita..... Annette Chabot  
General Musical Director, Chevalier Giuseppe Angelini.

Aside from the unique and interesting features of the San Carlo organization, perhaps one of the most important points is the matter of the cost of seats. For the first time in local musical history, the music student is going to be able to attend the opera without suffering an undue strain upon the pursestrings. The clever season, or membership ticket plan, worked out by the opera managers and the Shriners' committee, has brought down the price of tickets to such a degree that to reduce further would place grand opera in the moving picture class. This has been made possible by reason of the vast seating capacity of the Auditorium, and right here is another instance where such a great thought becomes important and beneficial to the cultural side of the city.

The cost of tickets will be found in another column of this paper. Hundreds of the membership tickets have found their way into the hands of local opera lovers many people from neighboring cities will be here for the event and indications are that a vast number will enjoy the delightful festival of song.

### MR. DRESHER, PLEASE HURRY THIS JOB!

A Battalion of Omahans Who Delayed Winter Cleaning Work Are Begging for Rapid Jobs Now.

Dreshers Work with Vim and Continually Add to the Already Immense Force Engaged at the Plant.

"Oh, Mr. Dresher, please hurry this job! I didn't realize until today how badly my clothes need going over and I haven't a single thing to wear." Al Dresher, who presides over the Order Dept. of Dresher Brothers' \$7,000 Cleaning and Dyeing plant, at 215-217 Farnam St., is the recipient of dozens of messages like this every day. His friends, the friends of the Dresher employees, and the public in general, fairly hurry orders upon this institution. The great, large, throbbing, busy, but ever careless mass of clothes swarfers (and that includes you, most likely) is proverbially careless; the cleaning work that should have reached Dreshers a week or more ago is rushed in today with orders to "get-it-out-at-once."

But Dreshers have never yet disappointed a customer on a rush order. Nothing short of an earthquake could affect a force so ambitious as this one. The facilities are here. The willingness is here. No matter how slow your other cleaning establishment may have been, trust in Dreshers to put the "go" in shipments and deliveries. And, the best part of it is that you can never tell that a Dresher job has been hurried. The quality is always on the face of the job, no matter how quickly the work may have been pushed through. Phone Tyler 96 or leave your work at the plant, at Dresher, The Tailors, 1815 Farnam St., or at the Brandeis Store Receiving Station, maintained by Dresher Brothers. Send in your work by parcel post or express if you live out of town, for Dreshers pay return charges on packages of any size.

# HOSPE'S 41st Christmas SALE NOW ON

The latest advice from Santa Claus is this: "Do your Xmas shopping at Hospe's—and do it now, while their stock is fresh and large in volume." This is our 41st Xmas, and we have planned gifts to fit any purse in Omaha. Be sure to COME EARLY. A little journey to Hospe's will make you glad you came.

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Kimball.....	\$265 Up
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Players.....	\$555 to \$1,800

Easy Elastic and Lenient TERMS

We Have About Twenty Rebuilt Pianos. The cases are refinished—the tone excellent—at \$125 to \$325, with terms down to \$5.00 Monthly.

**A. HOSPE CO. 1513 Douglas St.**  
The Oldest Personally Conducted Piano and Music House in the West.

### Band Instruments, Violins, Guitars, Mandolins

Our stock of Small Musical Instruments, Strings, etc., is the most complete to be found anywhere. Special purchases have been made to meet the Xmas rush. You will find in this department almost everything in Musical Instruments. Special Xmas prices now.

**SOLD ON EASY TERMS**

### Gifts from the ART DEPARTMENT

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New Ivory Plaques, Artificial Flowers, Mahogany Candlesticks for Electricity or Candles, New Electric Lamps, Shades in all popular colors, New Imported Tapestries, Cordova Leather, New Designs in Bags, Memo Books and Pillows, at new prices. Art Craft Jewelry, Brass, Bronze, Sterling Gifts, Stationery, French Mirrors, Gilt, Mahogany and Bronze Frames.

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Guitars \$7 to \$35

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OUR SHEET MUSIC GARDENED FROM

## Christmas Victrola Outfits at Challenge Prices

**\$18.75**  
New style Victrola IV, with choice of five double face 10-inch Victor records, ten selections; terms \$5 down, \$3 a month.

**\$82.50**  
New style Victrola X with choice of 10 double face 10-inch Victor records, 20 selections; \$8 cash and \$6 a month.

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New style Victrola VIII, with choice of five double face 10-inch Victor records, 10 selections; \$5.00 cash and \$5.00 a month.

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New style Victrola IX, with choice of five double face 10-inch Victor records, 10 selections; \$5.00 cash and \$5.00 a month.

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